



St. Joseph's Research Institute

St. Joseph's University

A University established under RUSA 2.0 of MHRD (GoI) and Karnataka Act No.24 of 2021

Syllabus for Ph.D. Entrance Exam

English

The Expectations

In view of the admission process concerning the PhD programme in English studies, the following will be evaluated in the entrance examination so that the research community can assess a candidate's suitability for the PhD programme in English Studies. The examination will seek

- a) to examine if the candidate has a general awareness of the broad areas of knowledge related to both the established and current literary trends and cultural representations in what is constituted as studies in English or, simply speaking, English studies (Language, literature, culture and interpretation)
- b) to assess the skills of analysis and the abilities of the candidate in terms of their ability to interpret given literary/cultural/critical text or texts
- c) the articulation of a statement of purpose from the candidate regarding a broad area of exploratory interest as a preparatory step towards a specific field or topic of study

The Admission Process:

The written component (Written Entrance Exam) of the admission process will carry a maximum of **70 marks**.

The shortlisted candidates will then appear for an interview (an in-person conversation) which will carry a maximum of **30 marks**

➤ For the Written Exam the candidate is expected to do the following

- 1) to perform a *close reading* of an extract/passage drawn from a variety of literary or inter-related sources that will have to show familiarity with form, device, style and content. This is a *Practical Criticism* task. The response should not exceed more than 150 words – (10 marks)
- 2) to read and critically/analytically respond to a given prose piece drawn from critical, linguistic, philosophical and culture- studies theory. The answer should not exceed more than 200 words – (20 marks)
- 3) to respond critically to an excerpt/essay of a theoretical nature that exemplifies critical opinion in literature and culture and comment on its rhetorical strategy/features. The response should not exceed 200 words
- (20 marks)
- 4) articulate clearly a statement of purpose in the broad field of enquiry and study s/he is interested in for the purpose of his/her PhD studies. This response should not exceed 300 words – (20 marks)

➤ The Interview

The interview will use the candidate's written exam as a point of departure for further exploration and discussion in their area of interest.